

CANADA'S TRADE AND TRAFFIC.

THE Dominion Trade and Navigation tables for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1887, compiled from official returns, show a most satisfactory increase in the volume of trade of the Dominion, the total amount of exports being \$89,515,811 and imports \$112,892,236, showing an increase over last year of \$4,324,497 in the former and \$8,467,675 in the latter, a total increase of \$12,742,162, the largest increase in one year since 1882.

The aggregate trade of the Dominion by countries on the basis of goods entered for consumption and exported was as follows:

Great Britain	\$89,534.01
United States	82,767.26
France	2,405.00
Germany	3,672.96
Spain	481.28
Portugal	204.69
Italy	245.17
Holland	309.92
Belgium	927.58
Newfoundland	2,072.94
West Indies	4,067.59
South America	2,625.08
China and Japan	2,819.58
Switzerland	219.77
Other countries	2,841.91
Total	\$195,155.23

Amongst the most noticeable increases are Great Britain \$7,390,191, United States \$1,340,457, Germany \$164,164 (an increase of 5 per cent.), Belgium \$410,108 (an increase of nearly 80 per cent.), South America \$514,050 (an increase of nearly 25 per cent.), China and Japan \$323,881 (an increase of 13 per cent.), other countries \$478,899 (an increase of 20 per cent.). The only decreases of any account are France \$104,580, Portugal \$97,256 (32 per cent.), West Indies \$486,943 (about 9 per cent.).

The value of goods entered for consumption, and duty collected, by countries was:

Countries.	Consumption.	Duty.	Per Cent.
Great Britain	\$44,962,233	\$9,318,920	20
United States	45,107,166	7,299,592	16
France	2,073,470	699,840	34
Germany	3,225,449	1,190,267	37
Spain	409,269	176,449	43
Portugal	58,143	33,130	57
Italy	119,889	31,405	26
Holland	295,061	623,894	212
Belgium	703,851	166,445	23
Newfoundland	354,342	1,625	1/2
West Indies	1,942,182	968,496	50
South America	1,178,406	848,563	72
China and Japan	2,750,788	222,800	8
Switzerland	219,777	59,303	27
Other countries	2,209,902	828,687	33
Totals	\$105,629,428	\$22,469,706	

The average percentage of duty on the total value of goods entered for consumption, dutiable and free, was 21.64, which is 1.74 per cent. more than last year, and the highest average ever reached. The amount of duty per head of population, taking the population at 4,856,226, was \$4.63, which is 14 cents more than last year, and the highest ever reached with the exception of 1881 and 1882.

The value of merchandise exported from Canada amounted to \$89,515,000 against \$85,251,000 in the preceding year, the increase being chiefly in animals and their products, agricul-

tural products, and products of the forest. Of the total exports of nearly ninety millions of dollars about one half, say \$44,571,849, were sent to Great Britain, while but \$37,660,200 went to the United States. Of the products of the forest, while \$10,647,074 went to the United States, but \$9,856,144 went to Great Britain; but of animals and their products, while but \$7,571,583 went to the United States, considerably more than twice that amount, or \$16,815,877, went to Great Britain; and while \$8,043,192 of agricultural products went to the United States, nearly twice that amount, \$14,198,698, went to Great Britain. Of horned cattle, Great Britain took \$5,344,375, against only \$922,358 to the United States; and Great Britain took \$778,058 worth of Canadian butter, while the United States took only \$17,207 worth. Of cheese, Great Britain took \$7,509,013, and the United States only \$30,667; and similar disproportions prevail throughout the list of that class of products. The products which were sent in larger quantities to the United States than to Great Britain consisted chiefly of farm and live stock products, which were required to make good the deficiency in the home supply. The exports of products of the mines aggregated \$4,110,608, of which coal is credited with \$1,522,272; British Columbia mines furnishing \$1,137,618. The only items under the head of manufactures exported, exceeding \$100,000 in value, were:—Leather, \$440,616; furniture, \$243,894; organs, \$190,548; extract of hemlock bark, \$136,077; and ships, \$143,772. Although in some items of farm products the United States took more than was sent to Great Britain, yet the excesses the other way are noticeable, as, for instance, our exports of apples to Great Britain amounted to \$658,993, and to the United States, \$197,613; of oats the proportions were \$509,875 and \$12,210; of peas, \$2,026,670 and \$331,349; of wheat, \$7,357,403 and \$265,940; of flour, \$1,608,189 and \$20,776; of oatmeal, \$176,518 and \$3,850.

THE LABOR COMMISSION.

WHEN the Labor Commission were about to begin their arduous and exhaustive work of enquiring into all subjects connected with labor and its relation to capital, a circular was sent out in which it was announced that the Commission would be glad to hear evidence bearing on the subject, and inviting everybody who could throw any light on it to appear and do so. For the purpose of giving a better idea of what subjects were considered pertinent to these enquiries the circular contained a list among which was enumerated, "conspiracy laws and black lists," and "labor combinations," and authority was given the Commission to subpoena witnesses and power to compel attendance. One of the members of the Commission was Mr. A. T. Freed, of Hamilton, and the Commission held quite a number of sessions in that city. Mr. Freed is editor of the *Hamilton Spectator*, and is, or should be, aware of all important matters transpiring there having any bearing upon the questions which the Commission were appointed to consider; and being the editor of his own paper it was certainly to be expected that he would be more or less familiar with such matters when they found publicity through it.

Just previous to the first visit of the Commission to Hamilton, the *Spectator* contained accounts of the labor troubles